

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL MEMORANDUM**

**SB 1231 - HB 1339**

April 13, 2021

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Authorizes a court to order a child's testimony meeting outlined criteria in a criminal court case be taken outside of the courtroom by means of a secure video conferencing application.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:**

NOT SIGNIFICANT

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (006976):** Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Authorizes a court to permit remote testimony of a forensic analyst in any criminal proceeding if outlined criteria are met.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

**Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The proposed legislation authorizes a court to permit remote testimony of a forensic analyst in any criminal proceeding if:
  - The state has provided a copy of any report produced by the forensic analysts that the state is seeking to admit into evidence through remote testimony to the defendant at least 15 days prior to the proceeding;
  - The defendant agrees to permit remote testimony;
  - The court finds that the defendant's agreement was knowing and voluntary; and
  - The court and state agree to permit remote testimony.
- Any impact to the court system resulting from authorizing the court to authorize remote testimony in such circumstances is estimated to be not significant.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/mj